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Analysis of Mine Fires for All U.S. Underground and Surface Coal Mining Categories: 1990–1999

Department of Health and Human Services
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health



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Coal Mining Categories: 1990–1999**

By Maria I. De Rosa

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health
Pittsburgh Research Laboratory
Pittsburgh, PA

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UNIT OF MEASURE ABBREVIATIONS USED IN THIS REPORT

hr	hour(s)	st	short ton
min	minute(s)		

ANALYSIS OF MINE FIRES FOR ALL U.S. UNDERGROUND AND SURFACE COAL MINING CATEGORIES: 1990–1999

By Maria I. De Rosa¹

ABSTRACT

This report analyzes mine fires for all U.S. underground and surface coal mining categories by state and 2-year time periods during 1990–1999. Risk rate values are derived, and ignition source, methods of fire detection and suppression, and other variables are examined. The data were derived from Mine Safety and Health Administration (MSHA) mine fire accident publications and verbal communications with mine personnel. The analysis will provide the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health, MSHA, and the mining industry with a better understanding of the causes and hazards associated with mine fires and will form a basis for future fire research programs.

¹Industrial hygienist, Pittsburgh Research Laboratory, National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health, Pittsburgh, PA.